

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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DOH REINSTATES SEKIYA'S RESTAURANT PERMIT

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) has reinstated the permit for Sekiya's Restaurant and Delicatessen located at 2746 Kaimuki Avenue in Honolulu to conduct food service operations. The restaurant passed its final inspection last night following the completion of an intensive mitigation plan developed with the DOH that included extensive food safety measures taken by the ownership, management and staff with oversight and guidance provided by their private food safety consultant and the DOH.

Prior to the final inspection, Sekiya's Restaurant completed a number of corrective measures that included: hiring a private food safety consultant; removing all food products and supplies; complete disinfection and cleaning of the entire restaurant; management and staff taking a comprehensive course of study on food safety via classes provided by the DOH; and outlining active managerial controls to ensure that the provisions of the state's food code are adhered to.

Larry Lau, Deputy Director for Environmental Health said, "The owners and management of Sekiya's Restaurant have given us their full cooperation, and we feel confident that they are now in compliance with state food safety codes."

The DOH issued a Notice of Permit Suspension to Sekiya's Restaurant effective February 23, 2008 due to reported illnesses. The restaurant closed at that time to conduct intensive prevention measures. The DOH is continuing to investigate the illnesses to assure the public that this incident has been fully examined and contained.

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For media questions about this news release, contact: Janice Okubo Communications Office Phone: (808) 586-4442